The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" No, Sir."

Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO :—" May I know if any statistics have been prepared with reference to the Andhra Province ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The question has been asked and answered."

Police

Arrest of Mr. Bulusu Sambamurti.

*1723-A Q.—Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government of Madras gave any orders or instructions to the District Magistrate, East Godavari or Kistna, to institute criminal proceedings against Mr. Bulusu Sambamurti ;

(b) whether the Government of Madras gave any orders or instructions to the Police of East Godavari or Kistna to prosecute Mr. B. Sambamurti ;

(c) who initiated criminal proceedings against him ;

(d) whether the Government propose to suppress Independence of India Leagues in the Presidency ; and

(e) whether the fact that Mr. Sambamurti has been the President of the Andhra Independence League was a reason for his prosecution ?

A.—(a) No.

(b) No.

(c) The police.

(d) The Government have not considered the question.

(e) The Government have no information as they have not seen the charge sheet.

Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO :—" May I know whether Mr. Sambamurti was arrested without a warrant ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I have no official information ; I have called for all the police records connected with the case."

Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO :—" May I know whether he was detained in the custody of the police and afterwards taken to the District Magistrate who also did not know why he was arrested ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " As I stated, I have sent for all the police records with a view to examine the point."

Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO :—" May I know whether the Government sent a telegram to the District Magistrate to ask Mr. Sambamurti to furnish security ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " No, Sir."

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—" May I know the reason why the Government were not pleased to call for the records so long, seeing that there was so much agitation in the press ? "

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The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—" The police records were being used in the case. The judgment was given only a few days ago and we have now called for the records."

Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao :—" Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to place on the table of the House the replies of . . ."

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—" Notice, Sir."

Mr. D. Narayana Raju :—" With reference to clause (*d*), may I know whether the Government are aware of the existence of Independence of India Leagues in the country ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—" Notice, Sir."

Mr. D. Narayana Raju :—" May I know whether the Government are aware that the arrest and sentence of Bulusu Sambamurti have induced more people to join these leagues ? "

The hon. the President :—" That is asking for opinion."

Mr. C. Ramasomayajulu :—" May I know whether it is not a fact that Mr. Sambamurti was arrested with a view to keeping him from Madras at the time of the arrival of the Simon Commission in Madras ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—" No, Sir."

Mr. P. Anjaneyulu :—" Because the Government say in answer to (*d*) that they have not considered the question, may I know whether they intend to consider the question or whether they would leave it as it is ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—" We have not considered it till now."

Mr. C. Ramasomayajulu :—" With reference to the answer to (*c*), are we to take it that the police took the initiative without the knowledge of the Government, Sir ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—" Yes, Sir."

Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao :—" May I know if the hon. the Home Member is aware of the fact that Mr. Sambamurti was closely connected with the Simon boycott business in Madras, immediately before he was arrested ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—" I am not aware of it, Sir."

Mr. A. Kaleswara Rao :—" May I know whether it was not after the receipt of the telegram from the Government that the District Magistrate issued the preliminary order under section 108, Criminal Procedure Code ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—" No, Sir."

Mr. P. Anjaneyulu :—" May I know whether the Government are aware that such actions as the police took under section 151, Criminal Procedure Code, are more likely to disturb the public peace ? "

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The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—"I am not aware of it."

Mr. K. V. R. Swami :—"The answer to (c) is 'The Police.' The police of what place?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—"The police of the Kistna district."

Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao :—"May I know from the hon. the Home Member whether the District Magistrates have not instructions to refer to the Government in certain cases before they apply section 108 to political offences?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—"No, Sir."

Mr. P. Anjaneyulu :—"In view of the suggestion that the interference of the police is more likely to disturb public peace, will he be pleased to make enquiries in the case and issue such orders as he thinks fit?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—"I shall consider the suggestion."

Arrest of Mr. Bulusu Sambamurti.

* 1723-B Q.—Mr. K. V. R. Swami : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) at what place in Bezwada Mr. Bulusu Sambamurti was arrested;

(b) at what time;

(c) whether any ladies were with him at the time;

(d) if so, whether any arrangement was made to convey them to their destination or whether they were given any assistance to reach home;

(e) whether any warrant was shown to Mr. Sambamurti, when he was arrested;

(f) by whom such warrant was issued;

(g) under what section or sections he was arrested; and

(h) whether Mr. Sambamurti was taking prominent part in the boycott of the Indian Statutory Commission at Madras?

A.—(a) to (h) The Government have no information but have called for it.

Mr. K. V. R. Swami :—"May I know when this information was called for?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—"On the 8th March; as soon as we knew that judgment was delivered."

Mr. A. Kaleswara Rao :—"May I know whether the District Magistrate of Kistna has any jurisdiction in view of the fact that there is no speech delivered by Mr. Sambamurti in Kistna district?"

The hon. the President :—"That is asking for an opinion."

Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao :—"May I know if the hon. the Home Member is prepared to issue instructions to the District Magistrates that before they apply section 108, Criminal Procedure Code, in political cases they might consult the Government?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—"I shall have to consider the suggestion, Sir."